



Allergy and Environmental Health Association
(Ottawa Branch)

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Patrons:

**The Hon. Pauline
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former Lieutenant
Governor of Ontario

Dr. William Rae
First World Chair
Environmental Medicine
University of Surrey

Mr. John Krauser,
Ontario Medical Association,
300-525 University Ave.
Toronto, Ontario. M5G 2K7

6 January 1992

Dear Mr. Krauser,

Hopefully Dr. Warrack's intervention will help bring the Ontario Medical Association to finally deal with the problem brought forward since the early 1980s by myself, and for years before that by others. I am not referring to improved medical treatment.

The concern expressed for more than a decade is that members of your association have, by acting unethically, caused personal, social, professional, and financial damages and increased disability to persons disabled by environmental sensitivities, in some cases contributing to circumstances that have led to suicides.

They have done this for years while your organization has turned away hundreds of appeals that it act on a sense of corporate citizenship and professionalism to encourage these doctors to stop the abuse. Instead of acting to end the abuse, the Ontario Medical Association has repeatedly turned its back on the reality of what is happening, and dealt with less serious (and perhaps more palatable) issues of less concern to those of us who have been abused.

It seems that the OMA has, in a misguided way, put the reputation of doctors in general ahead of the lives of persons with this disability. The failure of your organization to deal with the reality of what is happening has left more people vulnerable to further abuse. Many persons with sensitivities live lives of terror; terrorized by your failure as leaders in the medical community to act when informed that people are being killed.

It is illogical, unethical, unprofessional, irresponsible, cruel, damaging, and just plain stupid to contradict peoples' experience on the basis of ignorance. It requires NO research to know it is wrong to do this. While the OMA has refused to deal with the fact that this is what some of its members are doing, we have had to approach literally dozens of other organizations to put together a defense against abusiveness on the part of some of your members.

I first contacted your organization in 1981. I indicated that several people had committed suicide because of the abuse, and that others were experiencing hugely damaging acts of great cruelty. Your public relations people said that the abusive acts were proper

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medical practice, despite the acknowledged fact that they were damaging and based on an absence of information. (Human rights people call this arbitrary interference.)

In 1983 I indicated to your organization that people were being abused, thrown out of their homes and otherwise violated, even killed by what doctors were doing, and the OMA refused to help. Since then I have contacted and received support from virtually every related federal department, and several provincial ministries related to disabilities and human rights. Constantly during this period I asked the OMA to help, to do something to encourage its members to stop abusing people, indicating the millions of dollars damages being caused. As far as I know, and as far as doctors I've spoken with know, the OMA has done nothing to indicate to doctors the nature and consequences of the abuse taking place, the unethical, (unscientific, etc etc,) nature of the abuse, or to inform them of any of the generally accepted precepts of medicine that have been violated in order that the abuse might continue.

The problem in cases of abuse, whether it be victims at Mount Cashel, Alfred, or other locations, is not the fact that there are, among us, those who commit abuse. The more significant problem is that those who are in a position of responsibility, influence, or authority will not acknowledge the abusers in their midst, or do anything to stop them. Is the OMA a professional organization?

For ten years I have asked your association to help bring an end to the abuse of persons with sensitivities. For ten years I have been amazed at the inability of your organization to grasp the issues and deal with them. Understanding that is expressed is later contradicted. Positions expressed are contradictory. Secondary issues, such as the ability of doctors to treat people with this disability, take prominence over abuse causing deaths. Facts are indignantly denied on the expressed basis of ignorance.

I have been constantly astounded by the arrogance demonstrated by people who have nothing to be proud about, particularly in connection with the horrific abuse of persons whose central nervous system dysfunction is caused by sensitivities that could be diagnosed and managed with existing medical techniques. Instead, doctors are physically and emotionally abusing these patients in ways that have been identified to the OMA for a decade.

The abuse, the killing by your members continues, and so far your efforts serve only to obfuscate the concern.

Sincerely,

DUPLICATE

Chris Brown
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